

Choynimni dialect

Choynimni (also spelled **Choinumne**) is a dialect of Kings River Yokuts historically spoken along the Kings River between Sanger and Mill Creek (near Piedra). The language is the best documented dialect of Kings River Yokuts.^[1]

Information on the language was collected by Clinton Hart Merriam and Stanley Newman.^[1]

Fluent speakers

Hank Oliver, reportedly the last fully fluent speaker of Choynimni died in 2017 at the age of 91. Living members of the tribe retain knowledge of Choynimni including an estimated half dozen speakers.^{[2][3]}

Revitalization effort

Efforts to revitalize the language have been organized through the California State University, Fresno Department of Linguistics.^[4]

References

- Golla, Victor (2011-08-02). *California Indian Languages* (https://books.google.com/books?id=B_yqdSE1F8wC&pg=PA151&lpg=PA151&dq=Choynimni&source=bl&ots=YWkUvPG29q&sig=ACfU3U0LovxGy7iw2yTuD0O66N2RFMmLZA&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjpusu_1ankAhXTop4KHYYnDNkQ6AEwCnoECAkQAQ#v=onepage&q=Choynimni&f=false). University of California Press. p. 151. ISBN 9780520266674.
- George, Carmen. "One of the last to speak his tribal language, he also sang about Wounded Knee" (<https://www.fresnobee.com/living/liv-columns-blogs/carmen-george/article159188144.html>).
- "Survey of California and Other Indian Languages" (<http://cla.berkeley.edu/languages/yokuts.php>). *cla.berkeley.edu*. Retrieved 2019-08-31.
- "Indigenous Languages Group" (<http://www.fresnostate.edu/artshum/linguistics/ilg.html>). *www.fresnostate.edu*. Retrieved 2019-08-30.

Choynimni	
Region	California
Ethnicity	Choinumni
Extinct	2017 with the death of Hank Oliver
Language family	<div>Yok-Utian <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yokutsan<ul style="list-style-type: none">Kings River Yokuts<ul style="list-style-type: none">Choynimni</div>
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	–

CHOYNIMNI.
Pronouns:
nim-a, my [sic]; min-a, thy [sic]; imin, his.
Demonstratives:
ke, this, he-u, here.
gai, that, ganin, there.
ta, that, tau, there.
han, what?
Numerals:
The suffix -am is used for eleven to nineteen as in Yaudanchi.
Verbs:
wan-de, elk-ac, xah-ac, ikk-ac, taut-a-c, wowol-ac, k'anuw-ac, waxal-ac.
xoot-xo, dau'hali-xo.

Information on Choynimni collected by A. L. Kroeber

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